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Reviews

Origin of the Bighorn Dolomite of Wyoming. By ELIOT BLACKWELDER. Bull. Geol. Soc. Am., XXIV, 607–24, plates 8, December 22, 1913.

The Bighorn dolomite is widely distributed in northwestern Wyoming. Its fossils, mostly corals and crinoid stems, are rare and seldom well preserved, but indicate an Ordovician age, possibly including Silurian also. Chemically the formation is a very pure, normal dolomite, with very little terrigenous matter. Its weathered surface is characteristically coarsely pitted and fretted, owing, not to intermingling of siliceous with calcareous matter, but to compact fine-grained dolomite structures imbedded in a matrix of more coarsely crystalline and porous dolomite. The ill-defined branching patterns due to differential weathering are probably of organic origin, more likely representing banks of calcareous algae than plantlike animals. The obliteration of original organic structures is assigned to the process of crystallization of the dolomite, probably taking place almost simultaneously with deposition on the sea floor. The deposits were doubtless made in an epicontinental sea less than 100–120 meters deep.

R. C. M.

On Oceanic Deep-Sea Deposits of Central Borneo. By G. A. F. MOLENGRAAFF. Koninklijke Akademie van Wetenschappen te Amsterdam, Proceedings of the meeting Saturday, June 26, 1909. Pp. 7, map 1.

The Danau formation, which outcrops over an area of approximately 40,000 sq. km. in central Borneo, consists of cherts and hornstones formed almost entirely from the tests of Radiolaria. The character of the formation is very constant throughout the area. It consists of two types: the one, a true Radiolite, is semitransparent, hard, and brittle, with a color varying from milk-white to red or green, and is composed almost exclusively of the closely packed tests of Radiolaria; the other is an argillaceous chert, always red in color. The latter contains fewer Radiolaria and is analogous to modern deep-sea red clay deposits. The former corresponds to Radiolarian ooze. This large